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Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-88-217
Wednesday
9 November 1988

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-88-217 *9 November 1988*

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Cuba

Castro Tours Construction, Industry Sites

Red Sunday Visits Reported

FL0911004588 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Red Sunday was held yesterday and Commander in Chief Fidel Castro toured important projects under construction in various municipalities in the capital. There he expressed interest in the work's progress and confirmed the organization and massive participation of Havana's people during the voluntary work day.

[Begin recording; video shows Castro at construction site of Pan-American Games stadium, identified by caption] [Castro] Where will the stadium be located?

[Unidentified construction worker] The center is marked by that pole with the small piece of paper. The one over there.

[Castro] So the stadium will come up to here.

[Worker] The stadium will spread around that area. Because the area where the track will be...

[Castro, interrupting] Is it oval-shaped?

[Worker] Yes, it is oval.

[Castro] Is the center of the oval going to be around here?

[Worker] The place where we are standing now is going to be part of the track and the soccer field.

[Second worker] Hello commander, how are you?

[Castro] Hello, how are you doing?

[Second worker] Fine. It's been a long while since we saw each other;not since Escambray.

[Castro] How do you see this?

[Second worker] Well, we are working very hard on this project.

[Worker shows Castro a blueprint] This is the sports field. The track is going to be here and the space in the middle will be the soccer field with grass and so on. It will have drainage. The area for stands will be here.

[Castro] And in addition to track and field and soccer, what will this be used for?

[Worker] The architect says it will include a field for jumping, a triple jump field, a tartan field such as the one at the Pedro Marrero.

[Castro] This is going to be for track and field events.

[Worker] For track and field.

[Video shows Castro at different place, identified by caption as the Vanguardia Socialista ferrous production enterprise in Guanabacoa] [Reporter] Commander, we are from Radio Rebelde.

[Castro] Oh, Radio Rebelde, yes.

[Reporter] We are broadcasting everything related to Red Sunday. We have visited many centers. We have seen a lot of discipline.

[Castro] I am touring some places and I came here. There was a time when Vanguardia Socialista was known to be a great factory. Later, this was not said as frequently. Now, I believe, the workers are trying to recover this image. They were in a meeting, they participated in a meeting we had with all the mechanical industry factories in the capital not so long ago. We analyzed the problems as a whole and also analyzed one by one the problems of each factory.

Now, I was passing by here and I came in. I had not come here for a long time. Before, during the times of Maximo, I used to come over here more often. When this factory was expanded, when the workshops were expanded, and this [words indistinct] was built new. It's been a while since I came over here. I wanted to see how things are going during Red Sunday.

[Reporter] In general, how do you see Red Sunday?

[Castro] Well, I have only seen part of Red Sunday, but I have seen people working wherever I have been. They have been well-organized.

[Video shows Castro serving himself food on a tray; then seated at a table and eating with workers] [Castro, recording in progress] ... when there are volunteers.

[Worker] We are going to work until 1600.

[Castro] I found another piece of bacon. [words indistinct] I want to see how the chef's menu is. [Castro takes a bite] It has fish.

[Worker] Yes.

[Castro] It really gave the rice a good flavor. Is this precooked rice?

[Worker] Yes, it is precooked.

[Castro] This type is better to mix with other things. I don't want to fill myself up. I am going to get wet out there and I am running around.

[Worker] You are going to Expo-Cuba.

[Castro] Yes, I am going to go to Expo-Cuba. But don't you think that the rice doesn't make you want to eat more. [Video shows Castro at Expo-Cuba in Boyeros, place identified by caption] I believe that, from the engineering point of view, notable progress has been made. I have also seen that people have fallen in love with their work. Someone made up some verses because everyone asked if this was going to be completed by the end of the year. They got so fed up of people not having confidence that it was going to be completed that they made up some verses in response. They said yes, that it is going to be completed. They were read to me a few seconds before I asked them if it was going to be completed.

[Worker] Yes, it will be completed. [applause] [end recording]

Visits International Fair

FL0811211288 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1413 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Interview with President Fidel Castro by unidentified reporter at 6th Havana International Fair on 6 November—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] As you know, we have had problems with some imported products. Do you think this fair could lead to the signing of an agreement?

[Castro] The problems we have had with information products... [corrects himself] imported products is the result of the availability of convertible currency. We have had to restrict many things and reduce the quantity based on our financial situation, our convertible currency.

[Reporter] However, many firms have made offers to facilitate credit now...

[Castro, interrupting] Yes, many firms have the advantage of proximity. They are in neighboring countries. Often products that come from Japan or Europe take much longer to arrive. That is why trade is increasing with Mexico, Argentina, Colombia, with Latin American countries...

[Reporter, interrupting] There is also a new line to Colombia...

[Castro, interrupting] I think this helps. These exhibits also give us many ideas. They shed much light on industrial possibilities. The people I have spoken with are very friendly, very cooperative, and well-prepared. These people that come to the fair...

[Reporter, interrupting] They give the impression that they want to help...

[Castro, interrupting] These people are truly well-prepared. They are university technicians. I have asked many of them about their professions. Many of them have higher-level educations and they know how to present their products.

[Reporter] Do you think participation has increased? Many firms remained...

[Castro, interrupting] It's been notable but it's also been a big headache. Part of me is pleased and the other part is concerned. I'm not accustomed to coming to these fairs and each time I visit there are more stands to observe...

[Reporter, interrupting] (?There's barely enough) time...

[Castro, interrupting] The number of stands keep multiplying. You see what time it is now? I think this is not a time for the exhibits. I came at this hour because they have a lot of [word indistinct] at this time. It's very interesting.

[Reporter] You know that the fair is an important opportunity to promote [word indistinct] products. The Otis Elevator Company is a firm that will play an important role in new constructions for the tourism industry.

[Castro] Yes.

[Reporter] What do you think about the possibilities for these products?

[Castro] I think this is very convenient. We should not limit [words indistinct] finished.

[Reporter] Of course.

[Castro] If we limit ourselves like this, then we won't be able to do much. We have no alternative except to save in every area. This firm is very prestigious. It is very prestigious, very well known in Cuba. We want to cooperate in manufacturing elevators.

[Unidentified speaker] That is already being planned. An agreement has been reached on this...

[Castro, interrupting] We're already building some, right?

[Speaker] Yes, yes [words indistinct] and also Expo-Cuba...

[Castro, interrupting] For example, they're being used in hospitals.

[Reporter] It's very important.

[Castro] They can be very useful in hospitals. They should purchase only what they need, what can't be manufactured here. I don't know how all this is being handled, but it's very convenient. I've figured out how much imported equipment costs, including transportation, and how much equipment that is manufactured here costs, even though a certain percentage of the components have to be imported. The important thing is that the equipment manufactured here is of the same quality as the equipment that is imported. That is fundamental.

[Reporter] Of course.

[Castro] Many times people are in the position where they have quality products and they succumb to the temptation to use a component that is not of good quality. If you have 100 components and you use 2 or 3 that are of poor quality, you'll have wasted your time on the other 97 components.

[Reporter] Of course.

[Castro] It is very important to know in each occasion what we should use and what we should purchase. There is a great need for elevators, not just for the new buildings under construction, but also for the thousands of buildings that exist throughout the country. Do you know how many Otis elevators we have?

[Speaker] We have 1,800 Otis elevators.

[Reporter] Some of them are very old and maintenance...

[Castro, interrupting] Do you live in a building that has an elevator?

[Reporter, laughing] No, no, commander.

[Castro] You're speaking as if you...

[Reporter, laughing] No, I'm a reporter for the national television newscast and I cover the tourism industry. That's why I'm very interested in elevators. The Sime [Steelworking Industry] comrades are undertaking cooperative efforts with the Itur, which is a Spanish firm, to manufacture pumps for swimming pools.

[Castro] How far away are we from their exhibit?

[Reporter] Well...

[Castro, interrupting] I came here awhile ago and I haven't moved more than a few meters.

[Reporter] Also, commander...

[Castro, interrupting] You work in television in the tourism sector?

[Reporter] Yes, I work in television on tourism, trade and tourism.

[Castro] Are you well-informed on Varadero?

[Reporter] Yes.

[Castro] We were there for several days and for the second time we discussed plans for hotels built by Cubana [as heard]. It's [word indistinct]; isn't it?

[Reporter] Yes, the [word indistinct] plan.

[Castro] The plan here, the Varadero plan, is very, very beautiful. [words indistinct] We are analyzing it. A group has already done an analysis. We will have another group analyze the same thing so that we have criteria to work with. There are many things to do and many alternatives.

One of the concepts they will be looking into is if the hotel should be on the ocean and if it should be proprietor of a strip of land, or if there should be several hotels with no one being the proprietor of the oceanfront.

[Reporter] That way it can be shared.

[Castro] It's an idea. Another consideration is whether the rooms should face the ocean or the city. For example, plans have been drawn up for a hotel that could be built close to the Riviera Hotel. It would be a short distance from there.

[Reporter] Yes. However, commander, in reference to the Varadero plan, the avenue close to the hotels next to the ocean will have trees planted so that it can be a pedestrian walkway. I think this will allow the tourist to see the city without begin bothered by traffic and other things.

[Castro] When you come to an exhibit such as this you see how many firms offer products that we need...

[Reporter, interrupting] They offer products we need for tourism.

[Castro] No, we need them for national development, but they're costly. The importance of tourism is that it should produce income for the acquisition of those things the country needs for development. It's important. We have to work on this, on learning how to treat our visitors, and we have to fight all those things that disturb visitors. I know that visitors like certain things. All those things...

[Reporter, interrupting] That's true. This applies to everything related to tourism.

[Castro] Now we have 120 km of virgin beaches north of the country on Diez Street and we will conquer those 120 km. For example, in Cayo Coco, there are more than 20 km of virgin beaches. However, between the northern

coast and the (?Cayeras), especially in the (Cayeras), there are around 120 km of beaches similar to those in Varadero. They are not all alike. Some are better than others. Our northern coast truly has a fabulous natural beauty as far as beaches are concerned. We have to be able to take advantage of those resources and use them.

[Reporter] We have to be able to use them. Yes...

[Castro, interrupting] We don't have a large amount of oil, but we have sun, seas, a healthy climate. We have that.

[Reporter] Commander, is the development of tourism important then, especially for the year 2000?

[Castro] I don't think we have any alternative. We have to heavily develop tourism. There is no question that the development of the beaches for international tourism helps national tourism.

For example, Varadero has 2,000 rooms. A large part of those rooms were used in the summer for national tourism. Even though part of the rooms were occupied in the summer, it will always be a small portion, 30 or 40 percent. It will never be much more. The tourists that come from more developed countries have more economic resources. And they, above all, look for the beaches, the sun, in the winter months.

The day that Varadero has 30,000 rooms, if 40 percent of them are occupied by foreign tourists, we would have 18,000 rooms left for national tourists.

[Reporter] There are many possibilities.

[Castro] All those beaches that are developed will also help national tourism. We must not think that everything that is constructed will only help international tourism.

It is coincidental that people in this country have the mentality of a cat as far as winter as concerned, as far as winter is concerned. When the water temperature drops to 26 degrees centigrade, no one goes swimming in the ocean. No one goes swimming. People here go swimming when the water is 28, 29, 30, or 31 degrees centrigrades. However, no one goes to the beach during the months of January, February, or March. For many years the hotels were empty in the winter. No one went there.

Now, in a certain sense, this conincides with the interests of the country because the population is not accustomed to go to the beaches during those months that international tourists arrive. During the months that foreign tourists do not arrive, our population goes to the beaches. Everyone wants to go in July and August. Rooms can't be filled in 2 months.

We plan to continue developing camping on the northern coast. Every year we build one or two more.

[Speaker] There is also a plan for swimming pools.

[Castro] Yes, we have to build pools. We have made arrangements to use the rock with...

[Reporter, interrupting] We will use rock slides [deslizadores].

[Castro] We plan to use rock slides and ladders. You appear to be well-informed on all this.

[Reporter] Yes, commander, I...

[Castro, interrupting] You took advantage of the opportunity to spread a little propaganda. [laughs]

[Reporter] Yes, of course. I interrupted your tour but now I would briefly like to know your opinion on this fair because trade contracts have almost tripled in comparison to the previous years. This is a very beneficial thing for us...

[Castro, interrupting] They're not going to publish everything you've collected here because they won't give you that much room. You know how it goes.

[Reporter] Yes, commander, they will.

[Castro] I can tell you that this fair has acquired more prestige, quality, a larger audience, and it is now an important event from an economic standpoint. It not only puts our trade enterprises in touch with all these firms; it also places our industry in touch with these firms. There is always cooperation.

For example, there was a case of a firm that used to sell us products. They taught us how to manufacture it and now they are selling us something else.

[Reporter, laughs] They are selling us something else.

[Castro] They used to send us the finished product. Now they sell us the raw material to make the product. They continue to have a market with us and we save money and make progress.

[Reporter] We save money. We need technology, commander. Right?

[Castro] Yes, we need very much. We also need to develop technology. We have in some cases. Some of our equipment is unique, especially in the medical area. Some equipment is unique.

[Reporter] Now there are several articles in the fair...

[Castro, interrupting] I have to wait and see the Cuban exhibit at the end. The neuronic, suma [ultra microanalytic system] equipment is there.

The neuronic equipment will discover if a new-born child has any kind of deficiency. You don't have to wait until the child can speak. We'll know as soon as he's born. It's not just a matter of knowing; we can solve many of those problems. Hearing deficiencies can lead to mental problems; if he is treated early, then that is very good.

Further on International Fair

FL0811183988 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1344 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro made statements for Cuban television news during a tour of the 6th Havana International Fair. He commented on the Cuban enterprises increase in foreign trade contracts by six times this year and the significance that has for our country.

[Begin recording] [Castro] I think it promotes the effort that must be made in exports. I think it also shows the growing prestige of this fair. But above all, [word indistinct] I just saw the Cuban stands. They have done high quality work, and have shown things of value which have came about in these [word indistinct]. This is very positive, I did not know about that. I noticed that they won several awards. Now that I have come here, I can see [interrupted by reporter]

[Reporter] Fourteen Cuban products won gold medals in the competition. There were 45 competitors]

[Castro, turning to a woman reporter] What paper are you from?

[Reporter] I am from the television news.

[Castro] Ah, television news. You know, I tried a frozen yogurt made by equipment built by us.

[Reporter] Yes.

[Castro] Blas Roca [Contingent] has the first one, and they have given good reports on it. There have been 10 or 12 built, and for next year, they plan to build 250 of them. Do you know how expensive this equipment is? Fifteen years ago they used to cost $2,000, today, they cost $12,000 or $14,000. Well, we've lost track of how much they cost. There is a small, you could say, improvised factory which is located in an old locale. I visited them there while they were trying to have a new facility built. They still haven't built it?

[Reporter] They ran into some problems, Commander, I'm not sure what.

[Castro] Well, despite that, they have started production. This is excellent equipment [pointing at a yogurt machine] for our climate. I can imagine it in the cafeterias, workers' restaurants, all those kinds of places, and out in town.

[Reporter] Also, for the construction workers, Commander, out in the camps.

[Castro] Yes, for the construction workers. But now we must give priority to those who are working [words indistinct]

[Reporter, interrupting] What has impressed you the most about the Cuban pavilion?

[Castro] It is very difficult to say. But many things have impresed me, especially the [word indistinct], and how the presentation has improved, variety of products. I saw something new that really interested me. I saw some items made out of palm and tree [word indistinct]. I also saw our country's stones and asked if we had great quantities. They said yes.

[Reporter] From La Palma?

[Castro] No, not so many from La Palma, but there were many other very pretty stones. Those are very beautiful and excellent stones. There is a tiny workshop with a few people, and I promised to support them so they can increase their production. I think that the tourists who come here and buy foreign products could very well buy many of these local products. Tourists prefer local products. Of course, you cannot force them to buy. We must have the things that they want to buy. But I found it very interesting, it's something new. I also saw some furniture which I think they sold a lot of. The furniture is from a factory around here in Havana. I saw some good quality refrigerators; I think it won an award.

[Reporter] Yes, it did.

[Castro] Finally, I am very pleased with the Cuban pavilion. It is very good. This will show you the importance of Expo-Cuba, where everyone will have to exhibit what they produce. That is how we will find out about many things that are produced, and we did not know about. This will also produce a [word indinstinct] between the producer and the public. I think this will be a great incentive for quality (?because) people know that their product is there permanently. So when they [words indistinct] will come up with second-generation equipment, and prettier. Although, for being the first one, this looks good [looking at yogurt machine] and above all it's very functional. It is a good quality product, I just tried it out.

Generally, the fair has been very good. A fair like this is like a real university. In a few hours, you can learn so much about technology and its possibilities. You can learn a lot. The foreign exhibitors have also been very cooperative.

[Reporter, interrupting] Very enthusiastic.

[Castro] The exhibitors are very friendly. They are very eager to produce in cooperation with us. I did not visit a single stand which did not want to produce with us. It is

noteworthy. They realize that not everything can be imported, and that we cannot import everything. [Word indistinct] many things we can do jointly. However, with what we spend for one product, we can buy three. With cooperation, we provide our labor, our part, and who knows how much we could save. I am very impressed with the fair, especially with the importance and usefulness of these exhibits.

There will come a time when there will not be enough room for everyone. Space was not rented because we didn't have enough space. For next year, space requests are already being made. It's possible that in the future Expo-Cuba will have to be used for two things. It has two pavilions which are not for permanent use. But when [words indistinct], where are we going to put them. If this continues, even Expo-Cuba will have to be used for exhibits. Expo-Cuba has much more space.

[Reporter] Yes.

[Castro] But I think that center will be a success. A success [word indistinct] much sense. When one visits, one can see the many thousands of people who have come through here.

Have you noticed how the need to show the products here have forced our enterprises and industries to improve quality, presentation, and design of the products.?

[Reporter] Of course.

[Castro] This fair and these products are of great importance. [end recording]

Soviet Envoy Views Bilateral Relations
FL0811192988 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1247 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Interview with Soviet Ambassador to Cuba Yuriy Petrov in Russian with simultaneous Spanish translation, by reporter Daisy Gomez; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Gomez] Esteemed viewers, today all progressive people are celebrating the triumph of the Great October Socialist Revolution. For this reason, the Soviet ambassador to Cuba, Yuriy Petrov, is here with us. Mr ambassador, how do the Soviet people celebrate the 71st anniversary of the triumph of the Great October Revolution taking into account the existing national and international situation?

[Petrov] Greetings comrades. In 71 years our country has traveled an enormous path. In 1917, Russia had one of the most underdeveloped agrarian economies in the world. Now, it has one of the most powerful industrial countries in the world. At the same time, you must take into account that in the 1st years of the revolution's triumph, we had to go through many difficult times. First, the civil war and the intervention of 14 countries, then a brief truce followed by a war in whose flames the country lost almost one third of the nation's men. Dozens of cities, villages, plants, and factories were destroyed. More than 20 million people lost their lives.

In spite of these trying circumstances, the Soviet people, guided by the communist party, surely marches toward the future. After the CPSU'S Central Committee held a plenum in April 1985, we began a new task of singular importance. This task was given the name of restructuring, or perestroyka in Russian. The objective is that socioeconomic development acquire the necessary momentum, and that society reach a higher level. The agrarian reform is doing well. The main goal here is to adopt new directions of economic methods, begin complete economic studies at all levels, and self-financing.

Now, moral and material incentives depend on the final results of the collective. The preparations for the political system's reform are being completed. Recently, we have submitted for public discussion plans for the new law on the electoral system. Amendments to the USSR'S Constitution are also being debated. Political reform will limit the functions of party and Soviet [as heard] organs by endowing provincial deputies with the authority which will permit them to work in favor of the socioeconomic development of their territory.

We are working on a project which will let every person participate, more actively, not only in the affairs of their collective, but in that of the entire country's. This is to say that the serious duty of perfecting socialism—whose goal it is to satisfy more wholly the needs of the Soviet people, especially in high-quality food and widely consumed products—is being attended to every day. Housing construction has seriously increased, and the bases in the fields of health and education are being consolidated as had been foreseen.

About the accomplishments of the party and state in international activities, undoubtedly, the largest accomplishment has been, in conjunction with peaceloving forces, to safeguard peace and prevent the outbreak of thermonuclear war. We actively support the theme of disarmament for the sake of development. We believe that reducing military budgets will help distribute those resources to developing economies of the Third World for the struggle against poverty, disease, and hunger. This is also the solution to the ecological problems that threaten, not only cities and countries, but all humanity, and all living beings on earth.

[Gomez] Mr Ambassador, you have given an extensive explanation of the efforts made by the Soviet people. Now, we would like you to speak on the possible developments in Soviet-Cuban relations.

[Petrov] The history of our friendship is almost 30 years old. Now, the USSR and Cuba are united by the solid ties of friendship, internationalist solidarity, affinity in points of view with respect to foreign policy principles, and the building up of socialism.

I have been ambassador for only a short time, but I have already visited eight of your beautiful country's provinces and everywhere people have proudly shown me and told me of the Cuban people's achievements under the guidance of the Communist Party. Much has been done, not only in creating the national economy, but also in public health, education, science, culture, and sports.

As for the possibilities, they were clearly determined by the joint agreements for the present 5-year period, for development up to the year 2005. Cuba is our country's primary commercial partner. For the present 5-year period, trade will increase by 45 billion rubles. Soviet exports include over 700 items, which include food and widely-used consumer products, such as metals, fertilizers, different machinery, and equipment. In turn, Cuba fulfills 30 percent of the Soviet Union's needs in raw sugar, citrus fruits, concentrated nickel, and electronic equipment.

We know that great socioeconomic plans are being carried out in Cuba. We are convinced that these plans will be achieved.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on the 30th anniversary of the Cuban revolution's triumph. I would also like to wish you, in the name of the Soviet people, success, happiness, peace, and prosperity. Long live Soviet-Cuban friendship!

[Gomez] Thank you for your kind words, and congratulations in the festivities marking the great October revolution.

Trade Exceeds $8 Billion

FL0811160288 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Commercial trade between Cuba and the USSR currently exceeds $8 billion annually. The announcement was made in Havana by the Soviet ambassador to Cuba, Yuriy Petrov, during a meeting with the press.

He said that the trade volume between the two countries increased almost 50 times in comparison to 1960. The diplomat added that those who continue to plant [word indistinct] in the relations between the two countries are carrying out useless efforts.

Petrov added that the USSR will always stand by revolutionary Cuba and will do everything possible to continue strengthening the fraternal alliance and the multifaceted interpartisan cooperation.

Members of Soviet Naval Detachment Honor Lenin

FL0811224088 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Members of the Soviet naval detachment have placed a floral wreath at the foot of the Vladimir Ilich Lenin Monument located at Lenin Park in Havana. The ceremony was presided over by Yuriy Petrov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and ambassador of the brother country to Cuba, and Vice Admiral Igor Vladimirovich Kasatonov, deputy chief of the northern fleet and chief of the Soviet naval detachment. Members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Cuba and representatives of the FAR were present.

Navy Celebrates GOSR 71st Anniversary

FL0811152388 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] The 71st anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR] was celebrated at the General Staff of the Cuban Revolutionary Navy [MGR]. Also present at the event were representatives from the Soviet naval detachment who are on an official and friendly visit to our country.

Rear Admiral (Vladimir Grigorovich Baragnik) spoke and gave an overview of the Soviet people's history and their struggles. He emphasized that currently the country is stronger and that everyday socialism becomes more consolidated. For his part, Ship Captain Rene Gonzalez Machado, first deputy chief of the MGR, pointed out that the ties of brotherhood and solidarity with the USSR continue to strengthen, and that we are eternally grateful to that nation for the aid rendered at every moment.

The activity concluded with a cultural performance.

Angolan Envoy Rules Out Talks With UNITA

FL0811214088 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2032 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Our government will never negotiate with UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] and its representatives. This was reiterated by Luis Paulo Dokui de Castro during a news conference today on the occasion of the 13th anniversary of the proclamation of independence in his country. In 13 years of independence, my country has not had a single day of peace because of a permanent U.S. intervention and South African attacks, added the Angolan ambassador to Cuba.

Dokui de Castro highlighted the immediate militant solidarity received by Angola from socialist countries, especially from Cuba and the Soviet Union. These 13 years of South African attacks on Angola have made us mark the 13th anniversary of independence without peace and with over 60,000 dead, asserted the Angolan ambassador to Cuba.

After noting that the South African regime was forced to hold talks because of the crushing defeat suffered in Cuito Cuanavale, Dokui de Castro blamed the racists for the gap created in the quadripartite negotiations on southwest Africa. The fact that new contacts are being made to implement the resolution on Namibia's independence shows that South Africa has not taken the steps it is supposed to, added the Angolan ambassador to Cuba.

He reiterated that Angola's main goal is the construction of socialism and, to achieve this, it needs peace, but peace without foreign impositions. The ambassador told reporters that South Africa is concentrating forces in the Namibian-Angolan border at this time.

After mentioning that the Angolan UNITA bands are destroyed militarily, the ambassador stated there is no civil war in Angola; rather, there is South African aggression with U.S. intervention. UNITA bandits are only cannon fodder for South African infantry in its attacks on Angola, assured the Angolan chief of the diplomatic mission to Cuba.

He said that despite South African attacks and U.S. intervention, in these 13 years of independence without peace it will be able to show the world considerable social and economic achievements. He also stressed the long combative tradition of his people and the role of late President Agostinho Neto in the proclamation of his country's independence on 11 November 1975.

Spanish Sources Deny Intelligence Accord

PM0711164688 Madrid ABC in Spanish 3 Nov 88 p 35

[J.M. Carrascal dispatch: "Washington Fears Spanish-Cuban 'Understanding' on Espionage"]

[Text] New York—Spanish Government sources yesterday denied to ABC the existence of any agreement on information matters with the Cuban Government involving their respective intelligence services. Nevertheless, it is believed in Washington that even if there has been no agreement, there has been "an understanding in principle", which worries the United States. The head of Cuban espionage did indeed visit Madrid in April at the invitation of the Higher Defense Intelligence Center [CESID].

Sources at the Diplomatic Information Bureau told ABC that "there is no information agreement with Cuba" and that they therefore had no comment to make on the report published by the ultraconservative American daily, THE WASHINGTON TIMES, picked up by ABC and other Spanish dailies yesterday. The Defense Ministry also declined to make any comment in this connection because it considered the U.S. newspaper report "nonsense."

Spanish diplomatic circles believe that THE WASHINGTON TIMES' article lacks any foundation and that it is all due to a campaign against Spain over the withdrawal of the American F-16 aircraft from Torrejon base. Be that as it may, it is significant that Cuban secret service chief General Lopez Barrios visited Madrid in April at the invitation of CESID chief Lieutenant General Emilio Alonso Manglano.

Manglano told EFE yesterday that he had nothing to say about the report by the extreme right-wing American paper, owned by the Moonies. The CESID chief added that he would not comment either on relations with secret services worldwide. "In this field," he said, "I have to be discreet. We do not comment on our activities, for obvious reasons."

Cuban exile sources in Spain told ABC that they have no evidence of a possible Spanish agreement with Cuba in this connection but added that they would not be in the least surprised if there were some kind of negotiations in this regard, relating to a possible transfer of ETA members held in Algeria to other locations, including Cuba. The same sources indicated that hitherto in Cuba ETA members "have come and gone as they please" and cited as a specific example the fact that two terrorists belonging to this organization were recently arrested by the French police in Paris when they were officially supposed to be in Cuba.

The fact is that the Spanish Government's supposed intelligence agreements with Castro's government are worrying the Pentagon.

Furthermore sources close to the American intelligence services confirmed to ABC yesterday the report carried by THE WASHINGTON TIMES, though they explained and corrected some of the points in it. There have indeed been contacts between Madrid and Havana with a view to working more closely in this field, to the extent that an "agreement in principle"—the phrase used by our interlocutors—has been established, though without any firm agreement having been signed, as the American newspaper suggested.

Nevertheless, they fully confirmed Washington's anxiety at this development, since it would mean Castro's moving closer to western data banks.

The Americans understand Spain's position, one of the prime objectives of which has always been to make rearguard operations completely impossible for ETA. And Cuba plays a key role in its rearguard. The ETA members deported by France to Gabon, Panama, Costa Rica, and Santo Domingo are constantly traveling to and from Cuba, which grants them complete freedom of maneuver.

In exchange Fidel Castro is asking that Cuban police officers be trained by the Spanish Civil Guard and have access to Spanish Police computers and data banks

which, since they are connected to those of the principal western countries, would provide access to the records held by most of them. With regard to the former point Washington is worried about the kind of training that the Cubans could be given, while the latter is the real cause of the panic at the Pentagon, which sees Castro's shadow falling not only among recognized criminals and drug traffickers but also among collaborators and informers of the various police forces.

Rodriguez Receives Albanian Minister

FL0811162888 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez yesterday received Shane Korbeci, Albanian foreign trade minister, in Havana.

The two leaders emphasized the good progress of bilateral trade relations and the progress in scientific-technical cooperation, as well as the prospects for its development.

Meets Visiting DPRK Official

FL0911035088 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0302 GMT 9 Nov 88

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received DPRK Foreign Trade Minister Kim Tae-chong [name and title as heard] in this capital. The good progress of trade, economic, and scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries and the great prospects which exist for development were confirmed during the meeting.

The Cuban vice president noted that the accelerated economic development of Korea, together with the efforts our people are making, guarantee continued relations.

During his visit to our country the DPRK foreign trade minister will sign a protocol on the 12th session of economic and scientific-technical cooperation and the trade protocol for 1989.

Journalist Not Allowed To Stop Over in Caracas

FL0911032888 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2056 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Venezuelan authorities have not allowed Cuban journalist Gabriel Molina to make a technical stopover in Caracas as he was returning to Havana from Rio de Janeiro. Molina, who is director of the weekly edition of the GRANMA newspaper, had to return to Brazil where he was part of the jury that selected the Rey de Espana journalism awards.

According to Venezuelan immigration officials, his visa was not in order. In the presence of a foreign correspondent accredited in Caracas who had gone to the Maiquetia International Airport to receive Gabriel Molina, a policeman named Alvarez forced the Cuban journalist to return to Rio de Janeiro in the same plane in which he was traveling. Molina, together with former Colombian President Belisario Betancour; Guido Fernandez, interior minister of Costa Rica [title as heard]; and other personalities, presented the Rey de Espana award.

Haiti

Reaction to Draft Electoral Council Decree

FL0811143588 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 700 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Lieutenant General Prosper Avril's military government last week submitted to the major Haitian political leaders a draft decree creating an independent institution in charge of organizing the next Haitian elections. [passage omitted]

The position of the PDCH [Haitian Christian Democratic Party] on this is as follows: By issuing such a decree, the military government has demonstrated a relapse. The PDCH explains: The CNG [National Government Council] had attempted to retrieve the CEP [Provisional Electoral Council] in this very same way, to the detriment of the constitution. According to the PDCH, this led to: the dissolution of the CATH [Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers] and the trashing of its headquarters; Mr Lorthe's [Information Minister under the CNG] insulting news conference; the strikes and demonstrations of the summer of 1987; the (?leaving out in the cold) of 16,000 baccalaureat candidates; and the murder of people in underprivileged neighborhoods.

As long as the soldiers who have been arrested and imprisoned are not brought before the proper authorities, at a time when insecurity is returning to Haiti with a vengeance, the PDCH cannot speak of elections in Haiti, because the Haitian people will never again be led to the slaughter, says the PDCH's press release.

The press release continues: The PDCH rejects this draft decree, because it is unconstitutional. The PDCH invites the military government to issue another decree that would invite the institutions designated by the Constitution of 1987 to send a delegate to be a member of the CEP. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording of statements by Marc Bazin, from the Committee for Democratic Accord (CED)] We ask the government to adhere as closely as possible to the letter of the Constitution. And what does the letter of the Constitution say? Article 289 is very clear on this. In order to designate the members of the electoral council, a certain number of associations and institutions must be consulted.

This said, we have no problem whatsoever with the geographical approach taken by the government. On the contrary, we think that there is no incompatibility whatsoever between the government's geographically oriented approach and the institutional approach described in the Constitution. [passage omitted containing indistinct portions]

There is no reason whatsoever to have to adopt either a geographical approach or an institutional approach. They can be combined.

Of course, there is a minor obstacle: Article 289 also provides for a representative of the advisory council, and this advisory council no longer exists today. We suggest that in place of a delegate sent by the advisory council, the Haitian Army be given the opportunity to show... [changes thought] First of all, [we suggest] that we acknowledge in a truly spectacular and formal manner the role played by the Haitian Army in the events that are at present leading to the process of democratic revival; and also that by participating in the electoral council, the Army show its truly irreversible commitment. Thus, we would like to see that the delegate that was to have been chosen by the advisory council now be chosen by the Haitian Armed Forces.

Aside from our observations regarding the Constitution and the institution's independence, we propose the following: that General Prosper Avril form a large committee to sit face to face with the government to exchange observations on the government's proposal and on the counterproposal that we would like to submit to the government. [passage omitted]

We think that there are mechanisms that can facilitate reaching a common position better than a simple exchange of letters can. We think it is time to approach a new phase of dialogue; that is, to meet face to face, so that each of us can give and exchange. [end recording]

That was the position of the CED, expressed by Mr Marc Bazin of the MIDH [Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti]. [passage omitted]

According to the MDN [Mobilization for National Development], the term electoral college is not appropriate to describe the institution described in the government draft decree. [passage omitted] The organizational chart of the CEDA [Electoral College of Haiti] makes it an institution with far greater powers than those the Permanent Electoral Council provided in the Constitution of 1987. [passage omitted]

The MDN says: We appreciate President Avril's desire to give the country a truly independent institution, but the method of selection, with the participation of political sectors, makes the institution a committed organization. Thus one cannot speak of a truly independent institution, says the MDN.

After expressing other considerations, article by article, the MDN concludes that despite all the good ideas in the draft decree proposed by the Avril government, the decree does not lend itself to the imperatives of the Haitian crisis and does not take into account the constraints and economic and financial limitations of a situation of poverty.

Further Reaction Reported

FL0811170988 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Several political leaders have reacted to the draft decree on creating an electoral council submitted by the government. [passage omitted]

Several political leaders we contacted told us that, after analysis, they see that this draft decree is not at all well adapted to Haiti. It does not respect the spirit of the Constitution of 1987. [passage omitted]

Mr Hubert de Ronceray [head of the Mobilization for National Development] thinks that setting up electoral tribunals throughout Haiti involves too much expense. Furthermore, this might be a means to ensure that the members of the electoral college are the only people who would have a word to put in. [passage omitted]

Mr de Ronceray was categorical: With an institution such as the one presented in the draft decree, the government will not be able to lead the country (?in the proper direction).

For his part, Mr Gerard Philippe Auguste, speaking for the Movement for the Organization of the Country, MOP, after giving the draft decree a first once-over, finds that many articles are not clear enough. He shares the opinion of several other leaders regarding the word independent. The MOP proposes that they elect the nine members instead of appointing them. This would be more democratic, says the MOP. the MOP also has a big question about the matter of electoral tribunals.

[Begin Auguste recording] [passage omitted] The MOP would suggest that each geographical department of the country—such as the Department of the West, the Artibonite, the Central Plateau, the North—choose three people, and the government could call one of these three persons to the electoral council. [passage omitted] [end recording]

We contacted Mr Eddy Volel, for the Assembly of Christian Democratics, RDC. He told us that the party he heads is not involved in any proposal with the government over the draft decree because it is not into elections just now—the Haitian people's demands have not yet been met. The RDC said General Prosper Avril sent the draft decree only to the leaders he had met with at the National Palace. Mr Volel criticized many articles

in the draft decree, but said that he would not have a dialogue with the government on this because the RDC did not at all support elections being held in Haiti at the present time.

[Begin Volel recording] He says he is (?seeking to establish) an independent institution. He says that in order to hold peaceful elections he needs people without partisan interests. And then he gives you a draft law that contradicts everything he has said. Thus, this is a provocation. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Police Investigating Death of Jean-Claude Paul
FL0811172988 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1145 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Some 24 hours after the death of Colonel Jean-Claude Paul, the Port-au-Prince police have opened an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death of the former Dessalines Barracks commander, which occurred Sunday at Paul's residence in Fermathe.

Thus Mireille Delinois, twice married to Col Jean-Claude Paul, who until yesterday morning was under police protection, was placed under arrest yesterday, according to a police source.

We remind listeners that shortly after the colonel's death Sunday, two people who worked at his residence were taken into custody by the police.

This police source also told us that the remains of the food eaten by the colonel just before he died have been sent to a center in Miami to be examined.

It is also pointed out that Col Paul went into violent convulsions after eating some soup at his home, and died immediately afterwards. [passage omitted]

[Anthony Paul, Col Paul's brother] also told us that Col Paul's body was autopsied yesterday morning, and that the Paul family has not yet been given the results of the autopsy. [passage omitted]

Former Port-au-Prince Mayor Suffers Heart Attack
FL0811174488 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1145 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Excerpt] The former mayor of Port-au-Prince is not dead, but he did have a heart attack last week, Jose del Carmen Acosta, Dominican ambassador in Port-au-Prince, stated yesterday. This statement refutes the rumors circulating in Port-au-Prince since Sunday night to the effect that Franck Romain had died following a heart attack.

Mr Acosta also confirmed for the first time that Mr Franck Romain, accompanied by his wife and son Ti Franck, had sought refuge at the Dominican Embassy. [passage omitted]

Group Describes Lawlessness in Northwest
FL0811181288 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpts] In the northwest, the cooperative action movement to establish a small peasant farmers movement has made public a dossier on section chiefs in the area.

They say: In order to establish a movement of small Haitian peasants farmers, the small peasant farmer groups in the far west [refers to northwestern Haiti, an area considered by Haitians to be beyond the reach of the law] that are affiliated with the cooperative action movement have prepared a dossier on the heavy-handed acts being committed by the section chiefs against small peasant farmers in the communes of Port-de-Paix, Jean-Rabel, Mole Saint Nicolas, Bombardopolis, and (BDN). [passage omitted]

Joel Jean-Baptiste [section chief of the seventh communal section of Mahotiere] has turned his house into an office in which to receive all the macoutes in Mahotiere. [passage omitted]

In the commune of Jean-Rabel itself, subdistrict commander (Adrien Saint-Julien) played an important role in the 23 July massacre. [passage omitted]

In sections such as Lacoma, Dubois, and (Remont), section chief (Saintamar Francois), his son (Richardson Francois), and six other police aides fired shots on 24 October 1988 all the way from the marketplace in Grande Mare to Beau Champ in order to sow fear among the population. A few days later, on 29 October 1988, (Saintamar Francois) arrested without a warrant a peasant who was a member of the cooperative action group, allegedly in connection with a matter of land, and handed him over to commandant (Adrien Saint-Julien) at the barracks in Jean-Rabel. [passage omitted]

On 17 October 1988, police aide (Neralien Rene) warned the section chief that he was going to cut off the heads of four members of the cooperative action group.

In Dubois, (?Policeman) (Vilassez Metayer) and one of his sons, a naturalized U.S. citizen whose name is (Innocent Metayer), alias Mark Johnny, are distributing weapons they have smuggled into the country to macoutes and police aides in the Dubois area. [passage omitted]

[Words indistinct] continues: In Cabaret (Lucksen Saint-Vil) attacked the Canadian (?bishop) after the massacre. These people have been given guarantees by the barracks in Port-de-Paix that they can do whatever they want to prevent the peasants from organizing themselves. (Lucksen Saint-Vil) has the support of a cousin who is a soldier at the Port-de-Paix barracks. [passage omitted]

In the fourth section, La Montagne, section chief (Herilien Delien) has formed two groups of thugs [sans mamans] to (?provoke) all the small peasants who are holding meetings. (Herilien Delien) is being aided by several leaders of groups that were going around killing people the day of the massacre—such as (Eugene), (Ti Captitaine), (Selom), (Ansenyon Dumesles), (Espoir Joseph), (Robert Levy), (Desantil), and many others.

In the seventh section, Fond Amadou, section chief (Mercidieu Jeune) is doing as he pleases. These men go around arresting peasants at the slightest pretext. They then tie them up, jack them [a form of torture], beat them severely, and demand 100 gourdes from the victims' relatives in order to remove the jack. (Mercidieu Jeune) has installed 49 police aides in just four settlements so that not a feather will flutter in the area. [passage omitted]

The dossier says: The way we small peasant farmers of the far west see it, everyone with good intentions toward Haiti will understand that no democratic change is possible as long as these kinds of thugs are heading the rural sections.

We are crying out today a visceral cry coming directly from the many peasants who are determined to struggle to put an end to the injustices and exploitation in the Far West. We think that if the military authorities don't make a proper popular decision to have serious people run the rural sections, we will be obliged to refuse to acknowledge as section chief any of the abovementioned devils.

They say that they conclude by asking all small peasant farmers to assemble into proper organizations, so that those suffering can deal with these criminals who have been (?implanted) in the area.

This was a long dossier on the criminal acts being committed by section chiefs in that area, made public by the cooperative action people, who are trying to establish a small Haitian peasant farmers movement.

Nicaragua

Ortega, Ramirez Comment on U.S. Elections

PA0811201988 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1808 GMT 8 Nov 88

[News conference with President Daniel Ortega and Vice President Sergio Ramirez and unidentified reporters at the Presidential Press and Information Directorate in Managua—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Reporter] ...virtual victory of the current U.S. vice president on one hand, and on the other in terms of the aid that has arrived so far. Would you explain how much of the people's immediate needs are being met, and how much more is needed? Could you do this in terms of what has arrived and what our needs are? How much international aid have we received?

[Ortega] We appreciate the international emergency aid that we have received. If our needs, however, are $1 million, aid has barely covered $100. I say this so you can have an idea of the serious problems we are facing. In fact, the stockpiles that were being kept for the next few months—food, agricultural raw materials, and construction materials—are currently being used to fill the void left by the hurricane.

With regard to the U.S. elections, I would not dare to foretell whether Bush or Dukakis will win. What I would ask —regardless of who wins the U.S. elections—is what will win? Respect for international law or a continuation of Reagan's policy of contempt for international law?

In the case of Central America, Nicaragua, and Latin America, common sense dictates the logic that both Dukakis and Bush have learned a lesson from the failure of Reagan's policy, and that they would not attempt to repeat it. We must take into consideration, however, that Reagan's Central American policy has been so interventionistic in various aspects, that despite Dukakis' expressions of good will—he said he would cut aid to the contras—the question is: If Dukakis wins will he be able to do it? Will he be able to fulfill his promise? I say this given the complexity of the situation he would inherit, the terrorist policy implemented by the Reagan government in Central America for the past 8 years, Reagan's lack of respect for international law, and his refusal to comply with the International Court of Justice decision. In any case, this is what is at stake in the U.S. elections.

I do not entertain the hope that the United States will do an about face. I do not believe a future U.S. President will respect international law, stop the war against Nicaragua, and all that. It is our duty, however, to demand that a future U.S. President respect international law and the American people and end the policy of aggression against Nicaragua.

[Reporter] Mr President, could you explain what these past 8 years of the Reagan administration have been like for Nicaragua, and would you tell us if the worst is past?

[Ortega] The Reagan administration has been the biggest hurricane and earthquake the Nicaraguan people have ever faced. I would not even compare it to the earthquake in Managua during the seventies nor with the hurricane of a few days ago. These disasters cannot be compared to the damage and suffering the Reagan administration's terrorist policies have caused the Nicaraguan people these past few years. I am referring to more than 52,000 victims in Nicaragua and millions in losses, which have seriously affected our country's economy; I am referring to the economic embargo promoted by the Yankee government; and about the U.S. Government's pressures on governments in Latin American, Europe, and other areas to isolate Nicaragua.

The result has been catastrophic. Reagan's policy against the Nicaraguan and Central American people has been catastrophic. Reagan has destabilized Central America. The worst is past. I believe, however, that as long as Reagan maintains an obsessive position against Nicaragua and refuses, in his final days in office, to allow a few minimum conditions so an agreement with Nicaragua can be reached, we will be threatened with a direct invasion by U.S. troops. We will be threatened with a military escalation at least until the new president—be it Dukakis or Bush—solves this complex situation created by the Reagan administration.

[Reporter] Commander, in the last few hours it has been reported that Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo announced there will be a Central American presidents' meeting on 25-26 November. Meanwhile, international observers say this [meeting] will depend on the results of the U.S. elections. Can you comment on this and tell us whether President Cerezo's statement is correct?

[Ortega] President Cerezo has been working to hold this meeting. He has been in touch with President Duarte. We have been in contact with President Cerezo and also with the Costa Rican Government. Although it is true that most of the Central American presidents are willing to hold the meeting, there is no such willingness on the part of the U.S. Government. The U.S. Government continues to interfere with this meeting. It is pressuring some Central American governments in order that this meeting not be held. Let us say that not all the Central American presidents have confirmed the date of 25-26 November. At one moment they confirm the date but later contradictory positions emerge. Therefore, at this time we are not certain the meeting will be held on the scheduled date. However, we do insist that the most advisable thing for the Central Americans to do would be to hold the meeting, and we agree with President Cerezo's decision to work so the meeting will be held. We must remember that President Cerezo offered Guatemala as an alternate site for the meeting when El Salvador said it found it difficult to hold a number of

events at the same time. Therefore, there is an alternative. Nicaragua also offers to be site of the meeting, just as we have been willing to attend meetings in Costa Rica, Honduras, or any other country if El Salvador is unable to host the meeting. But deep down, those aspects are not important. It is the U.S. Government that is exerting a negative influence so the meeting will not be held.

[Reporter] Mr President, how far have you gotten in making a comprehensive estimate of the hurricane damage? Why am I asking this question? Because usually when a country is affected by a natural disaster, it makes a rough estimate and this has been lacking in Nicaragua. As a result of the work by the civil defense authorities prior to the hurricane, there was a small number of victims in comparison to the size of the disaster. Because of this, the countries of the world might underestimate the effects of the disaster. Perhaps Dr Sergio Ramirez could answer this. In other words, are the ECLA technicians going to issue an estimate? This is very important and it should not be delayed.

[Ortega] Yes, the ECLA technicians have been working on this. However, the Nicaraguan Government is also working on this. We could not issue an improvised figure. It would have been irresponsible for us to do this. We thought it was advisable that we thoroughly investigate the information that we had because we wanted to expand it in order to give a truly reflective estimate of the effects of the hurricane on the economy. I think that in the next few days we should have such an estimate or evaluation. We not only have suffered losses in housing but also a number of losses in agriculture, in the production of basic grains. In other words, the peasants' production of basic grains was seriously affected by the hurricane and it is not easy to estimate this. It takes some time. We have been making evaluations and at the same time helping towns that were cut off. I was recently in Wiwili and in that area there were several communities that were still isolated and were being supplied by Sandinist Air Force helicopters. The ecological damage is not easy to estimate because the damaged area is so large. Working quickly but with the utmost certainty about the figures, we hope to have this estimate ready in the next few days.

[Ramirez] Regarding that same question, I would like to add the following: Several delegations from various international organizations will be making similar evaluations of the damage. The ECLA's mission will coordinate these evaluations. During my meeting with FAO General Director Edouard Saouma in Rome, I was assured that an FAO technical delegation would be here in the next few weeks to evaluate the damage to the fishing, forestry, agricultural, and cattle sectors. These are areas in which the FAO specializes. The FAO technicians will be accompanied by representatives of several countries willing to offer help.

I would like to add that Europe is quite aware of the damage caused by Hurricane Joan. However, we cannot ignore that there are some voices that speak for U.S. interests and who are downplaying the extent of the damage caused by the hurricane. Some of those voices are already saying Nicaragua is exaggerating the extent of the damage caused by the hurricane, which is the same type of message the U.S. Embassy in Managua is trying to spread throughout Nicaragua.

I found it quite interesting that during my meeting with Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson we discussed the seriousness of the tragedy and the voices beginning to downplay the effects of the hurricane. I told him the Nicaraguan Government has approached several international agencies and has asked them to evaluate the damage. Prime Minister Carlsson told me the Swedish Government's decision to help Nicaragua will depend on the official reports released by the Nicaraguan Government. He said the Swedish Government has absolute trust in the reports the Nicaraguan Government will present even though it will find the reports issued by the international organizations quite useful.

[Ortega] An ECLA mission has visited the country and will present their report to the United Nations sometime between 12 and 14 (?November). We, the Nicaraguan Government, will be releasing our report this weekend; we will have our report ready this weekend. The damage to the ecology has not been included in this report; however, we will be making an overall estimate on the damage to the ecology. For this, we will use the information we have received from our technicians and technicians from other countries who are familiar with the areas damaged by the hurricane. For example, Sweden has been very active in our country. They have very good data regarding our forest land. The reports we have received from the Swedish technicians were carefully and very seriously drafted. We have received much information from them. All these reports date back before the hurricane. We have very good information regarding our forests and the damage caused by the hurricane, therefore, we can give an estimate on losses.

[Reporter] Mr Brian Wilson is in Nicaragua today, election day in the United States. The fact he is here proves he does not wish to vote. Mr President, you have said you are not building your hopes regarding the new president. I would like to ask: Who would Daniel Ortega vote for?

[Ortega] I would vote for Brian Wilson. I could not vote for Dukakis or Bush. I will vote for Brian Wilson until the day other men with his ideas and feelings emerge from the U.S. people.

[Reporter] Mr President, the state of emergency was declared a few days before the hurricane hit. It was said the state of emergency would be in effect for a month. Will the state of emergency be lifted or extended?

[Ortega] As I already said, we are still evaluating the damage caused by the hurricane and taking care of our emergencies. We still have towns that cannot be reached.

Therefore, we will have to study this situation very well to decide whether the state of emergency will be lifted or extended. That will depend on the results of the evaluation we are making of our losses and damage to the economy and the situation being experienced by many of our people. We are talking of no less than 300,000 people affected by the hurricane. In the next 6 months, these people will have to be provided with food, because they will not be able to help themselves until they begin producing again.

We are including the peasant people who lost their homes and their agricultural tools. Not all the peasants can begin working on the production of basic grains now. Because of environmental conditions, part of the population can already begin planting corn, beans, etc. but cannot plant very much. We should be planting this week. We have until 15 November to plant. We are trying to get some seeds, because the seeds the peasants had for planting, for their own consumption, and for sale were carried away by the hurricane, by the floods.

The losses in our basic grain production in Matagalpa, Jinotega, Nueva Guinea, and Chontales are huge. The peasants who lost their homes and their elements of production are already demanding these elements of production, the seeds, so they can do some planting now, while they wait for the usual planting season in May.

In either case, months will have to pass before harvest time. That is, we will be harvesting in March or April what we plant in November. We will also have to wait a few months for what we may plant in May. We have hurricane victims in urban centers such as Bluefields, Corn Island, Rama, Mulucucu, and Wiwili, and the people around Tola. There is also a peasant population on whom no census has been taken. We probably have more than 300,000 hurricane victims. These people will require food and aid to survive until they begin producing. The people are not saying: Now I am going to lie down and live off donations and international aid. No. Wherever we have gone, the people have told us they want tools to begin working and food to survive until they begin producing. This is the people's disposition.

The decision of whether or not we lift the state of emergency depends on the results of the final evaluation we will be making in the next few days, results we will probably announce this weekend or early next week.

[Haig] I am Susan Haig, of TIME magazine. President Ortega, with the arrival of a Bush or Dukakis administration, what points will the Nicaraguan Government be prepared to negotiate with the U.S. Government so the U.S. Government changes its policy onr Nicaragua?

[Ortega] We are in favor of a negotiated solution to the conflict that the United States has created in Central America. The only aspect that states can negotiate is that of security because a state's domestic policy can never be negotiated. International law clearly establishes—and all *states know this is elemental to have self-respect—that* what can and should be negotiated [90-second break in reception]...remove from Central America the military presence in the form of troops and military bases, such as those that exist in Honduras and in the form of military adviser programs. This is the only field where there is room for discussions with the U.S. Government to reach a security agreement that will give security to Nicaragua and to the United States, if the U.S. Government sees some insecurity in the Central American region.

[Reporter] To what extent will the economic problems provoked by the hurricane affect the Sandinist revolution?

[Ortega] The revolution is going through a defense stage. Our political, economic, and social plans are centered on that objective: the defense and consolidation of revolutionary power. Political aspects have to do with the economic situation; we cannot ignore the links between these two. Political stability depends on economic stability, which is being challenged by the military effort and by the hurricane. This situation of course produces political tension. All this is connected. Various factors have contributed to make the Nicaraguan situation tense, but we have been able to uphold the main objective, the defense of revolutionary power.

As we completely defeat the counterrevolutionary project of the U.S. Government and secure peace, we will be in a better position to improve the economy and to normalize political life in the country.

[Reporter] The Nicaraguan Government, however, has extended the cease-fire to the end of November. My question is: Is there a real cease-fire between the two sides or is the violence escalating both inside the country and on the Honduran border?

[Ortega] Nicaragua has been abiding by the cease-fire that the government itself extended. Also, the government ensures the cease- fire is honored by the peasants' in areas where rebel actions take place. The peasants know the cease-fire brings a little more peace and lets them work and live. The mercenaries, following U.S. Government instructions, think differently and have been attacking the civilian population so the Nicaraguan Government will suspend the cease-fire. We have not fallen into their trap and are maintaining the cease-fire. But we also keep up an active defense, which means we do not let the counterrevolutionaries do whatever they want. It means we repel the contras' attacks against the population. This is what we have been doing, this is our active defense.

The most dangerous area is on the Honduran border, where between 3,000 and 4,000 mercenaries are being sent in to Nicaragua by the U.S. Government to create as much tension as possible, harm our efforts to cope with the recent hurricane, to damage the economy, particularly the coffee crop, and raise tension on the Honduran

border. All this is closely connected with the warmongering speech of the Honduran Armed Forces chief saying the contras are prepared. He admitted the contras have been trained and supplied by the U.S. Government in Honduras to continue to perpetrate crimes against the Nicaraguan Government.

This is the most dangerous time because it is now that the Reagan administration is most likely to launch a direct attack or escalate its aggression against Nicaragua. Under the pretext of a supposed attack by Nicaragua on Honduran troops, the U.S. Government could again deploy its forces as it has done at other times.

The current U.S. Administration could escalate its military aggression. The new administration would inherit a more complex and difficult military situation. We cannot dismiss the possibility of a U.S. invasion within a couple of months or even weeks of the U.S. elections. The Nicaraguan people are still on a permanent combat alert. Just as we were ready to cope with the hurricane, we are ready to confront an eventual U.S. invasion.

[Reporter] Mr President, would you connect reports of U.S. aid for the hurricane's victims' with the possibility of intensifying the economic crisis in Nicaragua? Do you think the new U.S. Administration would advocate increased economic pressure rather than military action?

[Ortega] That remains to be seen because this administration still has some time to go, in fact, 2 months plus 11 days until 2 January. In this time, a stubborn president like Reagan could do anything.

He is an individual very obsessed with his policy of not leaving the White House without having changed the Nicaraguan revolution. This should be a matter of concern; we cannot underestimate this man; we cannot underestimate his aggressive and terrorist policy. Hence, we must now wait and see what happens to fully understand the post-Reagan situation, because what Reagan will bequeath to the new administration will greatly influence the policy of the new administration against Nicaragua.

We are convinced that regardless of whether this administration is Democrat or Republican, it will try to impose its criteria on Nicaragua; it will try to make decisions regarding Nicaraguan domestic affairs. This is unacceptable for Nicaragua. We will not discuss Nicaragua's sovereignty with any U.S. Administration. That is a fact.

It is clear that this new U.S. Administration has already implemented a policy to minimize hurricane effects to damage even more the Nicaraguan economy. It has instructed the local press to gradually play down the hurricane issue, to introduce new topics in newspapers to ensure that people forget the hurricane. The aim is to bring the economic issues to the forefront again.

However, the Nicaraguan people are aware the Reagan administration is the source of the damage done. The hurricane damage is now added to the damage caused by the Reagan administration all these years.

[Reporter] Mr President, it is being said municipal elections here could take place next May. What are the conditions surrounding the choosing of an election dates?

[Ortega] We have talked about municipal elections, hoping they will contribute to the strengthening and institutionalization of the Nicaraguan process. However, factors we have experienced, such as the hurricane, obviously conspire against municipal elections, because municipal elections involve resources and investments.

We have estimated the cost in dollars of elections for the Central American parliament and municipal and general elections. Each election represents expenditures for Nicaragua of about $9 and $10 million, at a moment when we need these resources to feed the population, provide housing to people, and ensure people continue to produce and work. Hence, we must carefully reflect on when to hold municipal elections to ensure it reflects the country's real possibilities.

Thank you.

Ortega on Bush Victory

PA0911054088 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0447 GMT 9 Nov 88

[News conference by President Daniel Ortega with unidentified reporters at the Presidency's Press and Information Directorate in Managua—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Ortega] We must expect the worst and prepare for the worst, but we must let Mr Bush know that Nicaragua is willing to participate in a serious and formal dialogue with the United States to normalize our relations.

[Reporter] Under what terms, Commander?

[Ortega] Within a framework of security. In other words, we must not establish conditions for a dialogue, and we must discuss security issues.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Ortega] This has been Nicaragua's position and we will maintain that position.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Ortega] We have already stated our willingness to participate in a dialogue with the U.S. Government after Mr Bush assumes the Presidency in January.

[Reporter] Commander, do you feel discouraged [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] No, I do not feel discouraged. I already explained that the U.S. problem—whether Mr Bush or Mr Dukakis won the election—is that the Reagan administration has already made some pledges over the 8 years, including pledges to the mercenaries, meaning the counterrevolution; the arms buildup against Nicaragua; the economic embargo against Nicaragua; and all of Reagan's speeches and actions. This is not easy to set aside, even for Mr Dukakis—if he had won and wanted to stop all support to the contras—or for Mr Bush, if he is willing to follow a realistic policy.

[Reporter] However, Mr Dukakis [words indistinct] against Nicaragua?

[Ortega] We did not consider this a lesser evil. We must bear in mind that the U.S. Congress—which is composed of Democrats and Republicans—recently approved funds to continue sowing death in Nicaragua. The U.S. Congress approved the so-called humanitarian and military aid for the mercenaries. Therefore, we are facing the policy of a Democratic and Republican Congress that gave in to the policy that had been defended and implemented by President Reagan in Central America.

Mr Dukakis' victory would not have been a lesser evil. He had publicly pledged to cut U.S. aid to the contras, but this did not necessarily mean he would keep his word later on.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] House of Representatives. Do you believe the Democrats will continue to support that policy or will Bush have to face a different situation?

[Ortega] I think, logically, the Democrats will not be interested in supporting Reagan's policy. They have their own strategy concerning the Nicaraguan revolution; it is not aimed at strengthening the revolution, but at trying to weaken it. It is a strategy that differs from Reagans's strategy, but both have been trying to weaken the revolution.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]...now the U.S. Republican candidate George Bush [words indistinct] Nicaragua?

[Ortega] I believe the new Bush administration will have to take into account the experience of the last 8 years, during which Mr Bush himself contributed to U.S. policy [toward Nicaragua]. He was a maker of that failed policy. Bush himself now [words indistinct] to come and repeat a policy that [words indistinct] well-known proof.

[Reporter] Mr President, [words indistinct].

[Ortega] As the new U.S. President, Mr Bush does not have the same commitment that President Reagan had to the Nicaraguan counterrevolution.

[Reporter] Mr President, how will you face (?possible) political, military, and financial pressure from the United States after the hurricane now that your economic reserves are below zero?

[Ortega] But we have moral reserves and those are never below zero.

[Reporter] Commander, tonight most of the Nicaraguan opposition political leaders have gathered at the U.S. Embassy to follow the U.S. election results. Would you like to send any special message to the opposition leaders now that there has been a change in the U.S. Administration?

[Ortega] I would like to tell them they must now start accepting that Reagan's policy is practically buried and that a new [word indistinct] in U.S. -Nicaragua relations will have to begin.

Ramirez Received by Spanish Counterpart

LD0811123888 Madrid in Spanish to Europe 1100 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] The vice president of Nicaragua, Sergio Ramirez, has had a meeting in Madrid with his Spanish counterpart, Alfonso Guerra, who promised him an increase in Spain's aid to this Central American country. Ramirez asked the Spanish Government to implement an extraordinary cooperation plan which will enable the reconstruction of the productive sectors and of the transport infrastructure destroyed by Hurricane Joan which caused losses amounting to over $12 billion. The Nicaraguan vice president also analyzed with Alfonso Guerra the Honduran proposal to set up a supervisory force on the Honduras-Nicaragua border.

Discusses Contra Talks

PA0811164788 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Nov 8

[Text] Madrid—AFP—Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado has said in Madrid that the Nicaraguan Government wants negotiations with the counterrevolution to continue to be held in Nicaragua.

Holding the talks at a neutral site, such as Madrid, would be a step backward, Ramirez Mercado said. He is currently on a European tour to obtain aid after the country was seriously affected by Hurricane Joan. It would be more beneficial if the negotiations are held in Nicaragua, the vice president said, adding that the renewal of these contacts with the contras does not depend on the site, but on whether the U.S. Government is willing to reach an agreement with its so-called freedom fighters. The contras should lay down their weapons, respect the ceasefire, and rejoin civilian life, Ramirez Mercado said.

The Nicaraguan vice president, who yesterday met with Luis Nanez, Spanish secretary of state for international cooperation, expressed support for the Honduran proposal to establish a UN supervisory force on the Honduran- Nicaraguan border.

Comments on European Tour

PA0911004688 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1938 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Statement by Vice President Sergio Ramirez at news conference with unidentified reporters at the Presidential Press and Information Directorate in Managua on 8 November—recorded]

[Text] As President Ortega said, I have just returned from Europe. It was an emergency trip made because of Hurricane Joan. I traveled to Europe to meet with heads of state, parliamentarians, political leaders, solidarity groups, and nongovernmental organizations that work in Nicaragua and cooperate with us. I went there to seek support for Nicaragua after the destruction caused by Hurricane Joan. I visited the FRG, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Italy, and Spain. It was a rushed 2-day trip, I mean a 15-day trip, and I met with many groups in each country. My general impression in the countries I visited, and in Western Europe in general, is that there is a desire to support and understand Nicaragua in its current tragedy. There is also willingness to organize specific cooperation programs to support Nicaragua and help rebuild the destroyed areas.

As a result of our talks, Swedish Prime Minister Comrade Ingvar Carlsson is sending his foreign minister to Nicaragua in the next few weeks, to assess—along with us—the areas in which Sweden will help us rebuild.

Similarly, the Norwegian and Finnish Governments will send technical missions to assess the damage and have offered to begin helping us early next year.

In Italy I met with government officials including Italian Foreign Minister Guillio Andreotti and leaders of various political parties including Flaminio Piccoli, president of the Christian Democratic International and with Bettino Craxi, secretary general of the Italian Socialist Party, and with other parliament and political leaders.

Foreign Minister Andreotti told me the Italian Government is willing to increase its aid to Nicaragua next year to make up for losses from Hurricane Joan. Also, in the next few days, the Italian Government will send a mission to Nicaragua to begin evaluating the hurricane damage.

In Italy, I also met with Pope John Paul II and with Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Agostino Cassaroli. We believe the fact that the Pope met with me is a positive expression of understanding. We requested an emergency audience and he showed great concern for the human losses, the Nicaraguan people's suffering, and the damage caused by the hurricane. He promised to call for international support for Nicaragua in the task of reconstruction.

Our meeting with the Pope was positive and very cordial, as the Vatican press office itself described it.

Soviet Ambassador Discusses Current Cooperation

PA0911032988 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 7 Nov 88 p 6

[Text] In view of the disaster caused by Hurricane Joan, the Soviet Union could increase its aid to Nicaragua based on the results of an evaluation that an intergovernmental commission will be conducting in Nicaragua. The commission will assess bilateral, economic relations and the current Nicaraguan situation.

Soviet Ambassador to Nicaragua Valeriy Nikolayenko made the above statements and added that the great socialist nation has maintained the same support for the Sandinists since 1980 without any changes.

During a speech about the meaning of the October Revolution, Nikolayenko said current Nicaraguan-Soviet bilateral trade has reached approximately 300 million rubles, including loans and donations, especially food and farming machinery donations.

Answering a question, the Soviet diplomat said the aid given to Nicaragua is not as large as that given to Cuba because of a decision by the Sandinists. The Sandinists want to expand their relations with nonsocialist countries, because they believe that is more suitable for their government.

Nikolayenko, however, said the USSR has never abandoned Nicaragua and is willing to continue helping it, especially in cases of serious crisis such as the one caused by the imperialist blocade. "We are sure that if the aggression were to stop, this country would make greater progress than it has thus far," Nikolayenko added.

Regarding the Central American conflict, Nikolayenko said throughout these years, the USSR has advocated a political solution in accordance with the postulates of the Contadora Group and Esquipulas II. He added that in that regard, the USSR has faced opposing positions from the United States and other Central American countries.

The Soviet diplomat said the USSR also supports disarmament in the region and in all Third World countries, but that the United States violated the agreements dealing with that issue.

After stating that the weapons the USSR delivers to Nicaragua are purely defensive weapons, Nikolayenko urged the countries of the world to continue seeking peaceful solutions to the world conflicts.

Answering a question, Nikolayenko said the USSR has never thought of installing military bases in Nicaragua, because it does not want people to think the Soviet Union is a danger for the other region's countries. He said that for that reason, the USSR will maintain the policy of only providing defensive weapons to Nicaragua.

The Soviet diplomat also denied reports—disseminated in Managua by a rightist paper—about the existence of MiG planes hidden in crates. "We have no respect for statements made by people from those base sectors," Nikolayenko said.

Finally, he said the USSR is willing to discuss the issue of Nicaragua with the next U.S. President. Nikolayenko concluded: "We believe the new U.S. Government will try to improve what was wrongly done by the previous administration. That is our hope."

Humberto Ortega Gives Speech at Ceremony

PA0811194188 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2218 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Speech by Defense Minister Humberto Ortega Saavedra at a promotion ceremony for EPS officers; place not given—live; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts]...Daniel Ortega Saavedra; brothers and members of the FSLN Directorate; Tomas Borge Martinez, commander of the revolution and minister of the interior; brother Victor Manuel Tirado Lopez; special guests, brothers all:

This year, we in the EPS decided to hold this promotion ceremony as part of the Carlos Fonseca commemoration. In memory of our brother Eduardo Contreras, member of the FSLN National Directorate, and in memory of the other Sandinist brothers who fell on a day like today while confronting the Somoza dictatorship, in memory of our brother Carlos Fonseca, leader and chief of the FSLN, in memory of Roberto Huembes, (Silvio Runiakos), and comrade Picado, who fell alongside Eduardo, you have repeated your pledge to remain true to the Sandinist people's revolution and to continue accomplishing your tasks within the EPS.

All those promoted today have reiterated this through the reading of the pledge by Lieutenant Colonel Cortes. Approximately 4,000 officers have been promoted today in this symbolic ceremony.

We can state confidently that the EPS has firmly consolidated itself militarily and qualitatively, in terms of higher levels of military organization and leadership and in mastering the art and science of military operations.

The disaster of Hurricane Joan's fierce strike against Nicaragua's Atlantic area in particular—Bluefields and Corn Island—has tested that consolidation of our Army. All war preparations for a possible direct U.S. invasion were implemented, prompting the revolutionary government, the mass organizations, and the self-sacrificing FSLN to respond in a better and more organized way to this blow against Nicaragua, a blow that was unusual for that type of natural phenomenon. [passage omitted]

Weapons were only slightly damaged and their loss was also kept to a minimum. The rains containing a high salt content affected the technical maintenance of the exposed arsenal. Therefore, we immediately ordered prompt maintenance for all our armaments.

Damage to our radio technical armaments were mainly reported at Radio Technical Complex No 5 on Corn Island. It suffered serious damage. Other radio technical complexes, which were properly protected, reported no damage. [passage omitted]

We created an operational group to maintain contact with the general staff and infantry brigades; follow up on the metereological situation and the hurricane damage; ensure communications; provide figures and so on; enforce the orders of the Army, the regional committee, Defense Ministry, and the Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services [TELCOR]; and ensure communications among group leaders. [passage omitted]

We established the emergency staff, comprising the presidential delegate, who headed it; the chief of the 55th Infantry Brigade; the Interior Ministry delegate; and the FSLN's organization secretary. We managed to evacuate all rivers and lake shoreline residents.

We sheltered all water transportation means, stockpiled a 1-week supply of food and medicines, halted deployment of all water and ground vehicles in the entire region, and guaranteed the transformation of radio communications into a means for official orientation as much as was possible. [passage omitted]

We created an evacuation radio system that included motorcades participating in the evacuation. Each motorcade was equipped with a radio transmitter that facilitated punctual evacuations and helped determine the number of technicians and personnel that were to be evacuated. The special communications and the emergency communications sytems used clear language. We maintained a reserve radio transmitter at all times.

Government-Army communications: The government initially coordinated the transfer of information based on a point-to-point line, but because of problems confronted by TELCOR radios, we had a communications official convey information via walkie talkie. Later, the government's command post was transfered to the staff of 5th Military Region. This expedited the centralization and unification of information. The Army assumed the government's command post and reactivated communications with the Rama area. [passage omitted]

The Sandinist Air Force's antiaircraft defense: On 20 October, we visited the country's aerial detachments and issued practical orders on protecting and anchoring aircraft and dismantling propellers, and we provided decentralization pointers.

We drafted a general security [aseguramiento] plan of the Sandinist Air Force's antiaircraft defense. This plan was explained during an orientation meeting involving the General Staff, weapons officers, and unit leaders at 1600 on 21 October.

The main measures of this plan were: relocating the Juigalpa Aerial and Light Transport Detachment and the Heavy Transport and Executive Squads, and dismantling and protecting laboratories and aerial technical equipment and work equipment of the Technical Flotation Unit. It also included sending to Bluefields an operational group of the General Staff and Aviation Command to reestablish the airport and coordinate posthurricane aviation.

Moreover, we reinforced aerial detachments with three work groups from the the Technical Flotation Unit and coordinated and deployed Construction Ministry brigades for possible restoration works of the Carlos Ulloa Airport. This had been established as an alternate airport in the event of damage to Sandino Airport. [passage omitted]

The War Navy also played a prominent role, especially in supporting tasks that the central government and the president of the Republic directly commissioned to our brother and guerrilla Commander William Ramirez, because at that time, Comrade guerrilla Commander Lumberto Campbell was in Europe fulfilling duties entrusted to him by the government and FSLN. He was there when the hurricane hit. [passage omitted]

The Army carried out rescue efforts and was the first to provide aid. The Army played a leading role in the fulfillment of disaster relief tasks in Region 5 and in the evacuation and treatment of most of the refugees. [passage omitted]

Overall, more than 3,360 EPS troops worked directly on the disaster relief efforts. [passage omitted]

At the beginning of the relief effort, the Army sent more than 78,142 cans of a wide variety of foods to the most affected areas, and distributed more than 7,285 blankets, 381 tents, 50 rolls of plastic, 8,500 hammocks, 2,540 sheets, 2,500 towels, and 500 mattresses. All of this was done at the very beginning of the emergency. Twenty-five battalion first-aid stations were set up, 7 medical [word indistinct] of 1,000 men each, qualified assistance, medical treatment, and surgical equipment. Overall, 12,378 people were evacuated and 355,548 pounds of supplies were distributed.

This brief summary and a broader report we have prepared for the central government reflect what I pointed out at the beginning: The EPS—and I say this with conviction—has consolidated. We were able to confront the emergency, and our troops remained alert to the activities of the mercenaries, who—condemned to total failure—are determined to continue bleeding our people, who have had to confront the blow dealt by Hurricane Joan in addition to the brutal economic blockade, the economic, commercial, and financial siege imposed by Reagan, in addition to paying the cost of the war of aggression. The Army was able to confront the hurricane without ever neglecting or yielding a millimeter of our national defense plans. We were able to respond to the mercenaries' activities and constant threats within Nicaragua and in the border area. This has been our most important achievement. [applause]

It is now our duty, along with the Nicaraguan people and workers, to confront Nicaragua's difficult economic problems and the destruction the hurricane has added to the country's already difficult situation. I am sure we will continue to move forward with the same courage displayed by the comrades who confronted the heavy blow dealt by Hurricane Joan; with the same courage, determination, bravery, and devotion of the patriotic military service pups; with the same enthusiasm of thousands of Nicaraguan sons who have registered for the patriotic military service, youths who along with the reservists and the entire Nicaraguan nation will have the opportunity, pleasure, and honor of saying on the revolution's 10th anniversary next year: I also have contributed with my sacrifice, enthusiasm, courage, and patriotism; I have helped rebuild Nicaragua, defeat imperialism, and make it possible for us to say: victory, victory, always victory. Free fatherland....

[Crowd shouts: "Or death!"]

Government Announces Special Financing Program
PA0911012288 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 5 Nov 88 p 5

[Unattributed "communique"; date and place not given]

[Text] Considering the devastating after-effects of Hurricane Joan's passage through Nicaragua, and because the peasant sector was one of the most harshly affected, the Nicaraguan Central Bank, on instructions from the president of the Republic, has drawn up a "Special Financing Program" for the reactivation of the peasant production affected by Hurricane Joan.

The "Special Financing Program" will make it possible for farmers to obtain the necessary financing to reactivate their productive activities. The basic components of the program are:

a. Refinancing of the short- and long-term debts of seriously affected farmers. The debt will be refinanced at a fixed interest rate over a long term.

b. Long-term financing, with favorable terms, for the purchase of equipment, implements, tools, etc. lost because of the hurricane.

The following areas will be covered by the "Special Financing Program":

Region 5: The areas of El Rama, Nueva Guinea, Muelle de los Bueyes, Santo Domingo, and Santo Tomas.

Special Zone 2: The areas of Kukra Hill, La Cruz de Rio Grande, Laguna de Perlas, Corn Island, Orinoco, and Barra del Rio Grande.

Region 6: The areas of Rio Blanco, Waslala, Rancho Grande, Tuma-La Dalia, Wiwili, and El Cua-Bocay.

Special Zone 3: The areas of San Miguelito and San Carlos.

Region 4: The areas of Tola, Nandaime, and Tisma.

Financing will also be available nationwide for 100 percent of basic grains planted during the period of flooding, at half the usual interest rate charged for this activity in normal periods.

Panama

Secretary General of People's Party on Elections

PA0811145488 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1550 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Speech by Ruben Dario Sousa, secretary general of the Panamanian People's Party, at ceremony officially opening the 1989 election process, at the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City—live]

[Text] Your excellency, president of the Republic, Manuel Solis Palma; your excellency, president of the electoral tribunal, Yolanda Pulice de Rodriguez; honorable members of the cabinet, and other government officials; esteemed public:

We cannot let this moment pass unnoticed, because for us, the communists, this is not just the recognition of another party, but it signifies our country's current situation. Everyone who is aware of our country's history knows the communists have always been persecuted. Many say we are always going against the grain. We are proud of that because everything new emerges from a fierce struggle against the old. Therefore, we represent the new, the new thought, the horsefly that wakes up the slumberer so he will always notice how this country changes. That is us.

With today's recognition [of the People's Party as a legally registered party], we are pleased [words indistinct] sense of tolerance, the political concurrence, that the diversity of thought is respected, that we are really beginning to develop a true democracy. That is what today means to us.

We deplore that due to formalities, in our opinion, precisely when we are beginning a new stage of Panamanian democracy, several popular parties have been excluded, when they should be here. They participated in the 1984 elections. Those who proposed the changes to the electoral law were supposed to make the process more open and consistent with reality. But doors have been closed to the popular parties. In our judgment, that contradicts our current situation.

Panama is facing a historic challenge. We must be aware of this. This country is facing new challenges that it has never faced before. It is being tested. What began with the uprising of some citizens on 10 November 1921 [date as heard] to shake off the yoke of Spanish colonialism is at stake. What our forefathers did on 28 November of the same year to shake off Spanish colonialism is at stake. Our nation was founded by those who in 1903 decided, despite the circumstances—what they did is still being debated—the historical fact is that they founded Panama, which still exists today. This is also at stake.

Also at stake are the 85 years following 1903, the entire struggle of the Panamanian people for their identity, so as not to disappear, to create a national culture, consolidate the national territory, the national conscience. This is what has saved the country from being crushed by those hostile forces that want to destroy the nation. [applause]

This struggle headed by General Torrijos, which culminated in the signing of the Torrijos-Carter treaties in 1977, meant that Panama separated itself from colonial tutelage, that it threw away the short pants and put on long pants. The long pants in this sense are that Panamanians must have self-determination. Self-determination is no longer an aspiration, it is a fact that we must exercise. This is the great task, especially now that we have this dilemma. We are either destroyed, like the United States wants, or we consolidate the nation by exercising self-determination. That is the task.

We have made a great effort to register our party and work with other parties and positive forces that really want to consolidate the nation in order to save the nation. Now that we have to fulfill our self-determination, our nation has to demonstrate great sensibility, or great wisdom. However, because the nation is the product of a collection of people, that wisdom depends on the wisdom that each of us has toward the tasks that have to be fulfilled.

What does wisdom mean now? We are all Panamanians and we all say we love Panama. We all say we love the nation, that we support the nation. Let us demonstrate that in practice. We have to place the nation's interests above any selfish interests. This is the first condition of that wisdom.

By doing that we deny personal interests. They do not exist. What we say is that no one must place anything above national interests. That is selfishness, that is sectarism, and anyone who promotes his own ideas as if they were the latest truth, as if he alone knew the truth, is dividing the country, is helping the enemy destroy this nation. The historic reality is that the national sensibility is distributed among all forces that support the country. No one is absolute. We all need one another if we want to save the nation. [applause]

There can be no exceptions. There must be participation. The positive word is participation. The negative word is exclusion. Everyone who promotes exclusion, whether he likes it or not, is helping to destroy the nation. The only ones we can exclude in this country are those who want to destroy the nation, or the traitors of national dignity.

Therefore, to reach an agreement we must also determine the tasks that this historic challenge imposes on us. First, [there must be] territorial integration. We must complete our territorial integration, which has not been accomplished, as there are still parts of our territory occupied by foreign powers. We must integrate the nation. Our second task is to exercise our full sovereignty; we must be a sovereign state. Our third task is to nationalize the canal. The canal is not nationalized and will not be automatically nationalized with the Torrijos-Carter treaties. There must be a sovereign act by the Panamanian state nationalizing the canal; otherwise the canal will become a multinational, which is what they [the United States] are trying to do. This is no secret because instead of implementing the treaties signed in 1977, the U.S. version of the treaties, Law 96-70, is being implemented.

There must be a sovereign act, Mr President, and I say this with all due respect, of nationalizing the canal, an act of reaffirmation. The fourth task is economic development under a new system. We cannot develop Panama under the old system that worked for a colony.

If we are to establish our self-determination, we must outline a new economic development plan in accordance with this new reality. The fifth task to be tackled is social problems. We have a serious social imbalance, which is the cause of dissatisfaction, discouragement, frustration, misery, and hunger. Large segments of the population are now destitute. We cannot avert our eyes from this picture of desperation. It is true there are no magicians here. Nobody has a magic wand to solve this problem overnight. And yet we cannot forget any of these problems. We will have to establish priorities based on compromise. Nevertheless, we will have to determine the compromise necessary to solve later what we cannot solve now. This will have to be the proper formula so all of us can become involved in the desire to solve the nation's problems.

This is what I have to say. This is why we have made an effort to become involved. We are confident that other groups think like us and are also willing to make every effort to help Panama, which is experiencing this difficult trial. Efforts have been made to destroy us, but the nation has been saved thanks to national awareness. We can solve this problem by forming a national transformation government that unites all Panamanians. This way Panamanians will decide their destiny in history and in the world. Thank you.

Column Criticizes Southcom's General Cisneros

PA0811164088 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 8 Nov 88 p 5

[From the "Scoops" column]

[Text] Incredible! It now turns out that the FAP [Panama Air Force] violates Panamanian airspace.

According to General Mark Cisneros (of the illegal Southern Command), FAP has violated and carried out hazardous flight operations in Panama's sovereign airspace.

This proves once again the marked colonialism of this Yankee-Mexican, who masterminds all kinds of psychological actions against Panama.

Ambassador to Venezuela Reportedly Dismissed

PA0811165388 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 8 Nov 88 p A-4

[Summary] It was reported yesterday in journalistic circles that Marcel Salamin has been dismissed as Panamanian ambassador to Venezuela. The reasons for the dismissal are unknown.

Revolutionary Panamenist Leader Visits Libya

PA0911022988 Panama City MEDIODIA in Spanish 7 Nov 88 p 11

[From the unattributed "Political Gossip" column]

[Text] Toti Suarez [Luis Gaspar Suarez Sierra, leader of the Revolutionary Panamenist Party, PPR] is in Libya with several members of his PPR. He is probably going to discuss his candidacy with al-Qadhdhafi.

Argentina

OAS Reforms Protocol Ratified; Alconada Cited

PY0811135788 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0321 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Excerpt] Washington, 7 Nov (TELAM-ANSA)—Argentina today ratified the protocol of reforms to the OAS Charter which was approved in Cartagena, Colombia in 1983.

Argentine Foreign Ministry Secretary Raul Alconada Sempe today delivered the ratification instruments during a brief ceremony held at the OAS secretary general's office.

Alconada stated during the ceremony that the OAS still has to meet its political commitment.

Argentina is the 18th country to ratify the OAS reforms protocol which will go into effect as soon as it is ratified by 21 countries. Nicaragua has announced its decision to sign it at the upcoming OAS General Assembly to be held in San Salvador. [passage omitted]

Alfonsin Meets With Military Leaders 8 Nov

PY0811193688 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1152 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Nov (DYN)—President Raul Alfonsin met with Defense Minister Jose Horacio Jaunarena and the four Armed Forces commanders to analyze military issues, especially those concerning the budget, salaries, court citations, and the results of the Holy Week and Monte Caseros uprisings.

Alfonsin met at the Olivos Residence last night at 2030 with Major General Jose Dante Caridi, Army chief of staff; Admiral Ramon Arosa, Navy chief of staff; Lieutenant General Ernesto Crespo, Air Force chief of staff; and Lieutenant General Teodoro Waldner, chief of the joint staff. After the meeting they went to the San Fernando naval port, where they shared an informal dinner.

Official sources reported that at the meeting they analyzed the budget, salaries, lists of Armed Forces promotions to be submitted to the Senate, the end of the military year, the results of joint maneuvers in the south, and the legal status of cases regarding human rights violations in the seventies.

The sources also said that, for the first time, the implementation of a program to purchase military equipment over a medium- and long-term period was analyzed during this meeting. This program will clearly permit an evaluation of the operational capabilities of each force, and it will give parameters for measuring the effectiveness of the expenditures in investment projects, research and development, and operational programs.

The sources added that the Defense Ministry has recently reported that the budgets allocated to the Armed Forces and to the security system represent 2.5 percent of the GDP.

Other unofficial sources reported that issues related to the trials of military men involved in the Holy Week and Monte Caseros uprisings, trials which are about to end, were also reviewed at the meeting.

The prosecution of military men, however, was not discussed in depth, because the issue falls mainly within the Army's jurisdiction. Therefore, for ethical reasons the other senior officers limited themselves to listening to Caridi's point of view without adopting any position.

Alfonsin Receives Italian Parliamentary Leader

PY0911030688 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1706 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Nov (TELAM)—Leonilde Iotti, president of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, today said she is sure that the Italian Parliament will ratify the special association treaty that was signed by the Italian and Argentine Governments.

Iotti talked to the press at Government House after a meeting with President Alfonsin. She said that because of internal regulations the Italian Parliament is currently discussing the national budget.

Iotti said that after the Italian Parliament approves the budget it will ratify the agreement with Argentina because a large majority wants it.

Iotti said that during her meeting with President Alfonsin the two leaders talked about the international situation and the implications of the summit between Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Iotti said the two leaders also talked about the need to combat internal violence and violence in international relations.

Iotti and Alfonsin met for some 45 minutes. At the end of the meeting the Italian legislator granted a brief news conference.

Caputo Comments on British Sports Invitation

PY0811132088 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1144 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 8 Nov (NA)—Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has said that he approves of the participation of the Argentine National Soccer Team in a triangular tournament to be held in London.

He said that sport helps "to create a climate of relaxation and confidence" between countries whose governments are in confrontation.

"I believe it is time for this sort of thing," Caputo said, and then suggested that the AFA [Argentine Soccer Association] should accept the invitation that was extended by the British Soccer Federation about a month ago.

Caputo said that he does not believe that "taking a hard position on matters of this nature will help to attain the main objectives" in the political negotiations over the Malvinas Islands.

The Argentine foreign minister's remarks, made during an interview on Radio Splendid, are the first official reaction by the government since the AFA sounded out public opinion.

Caputo stressed that accepting an invitation such as this reflects a flexibility that should not be viewed as weakness, but should rather be understood as part of a global policy of rapprochement. He further emphasized that "I believe that we can become closer (?through sport events), thus to seek a dialogue. We must seek a dialogue even though we realize that it will not yield magic solutions, but it may be a way to make progress."

The British Soccer Federation last month sent an invitation which the AFA did not answer, because the AFA was waiting for a pronouncement by the Foreign Ministry. This ruling now seems to have been made by Minister Caputo. [passage omitted]

Brazil

Public Employees Accept Proposal, End Strike

PY0911015988 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2155 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Excerpt] Federal public employees have accepted a government proposal that includes the payment of the URP [Price Reference Unit] of May and a bonus of 25,000 cruzados.

This morning many offices and ministry halls were still empty. Finance Ministry and Social Security Department employees have been on strike for 48 days. The strike at the other 20 ministries has lasted 26 days.

Public employees met today in Brasilia and decided to return to work. After the assembly they walked to the esplanade in front of the ministry building to commemorate their victory. Administration Minister Aluizio Alves told the employees that he will take the proposal for salary increases to President Sarney. The increases will be implemented only after all employees return to work. The measure includes all Social Security employees, who are scheduled to hold their assembly on 10 October. [passage omitted]

Drug Control Accord Signed With Great Britain

PY0911014488 Brasilia Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Today the Governments of Brazil and Great Britain signed an agreement to increase their cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking.

The agreement was signed by Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre and Timothy Eggar, UK deputy secretary of foreign and commonwealth affairs.

The agreement establishes for the cooperation of the two countries' police departments, exchange of information, technical and scientific assistance, and cooperation in the training of personnel.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Rui Nogueira explains the importance of the agreement:

[Begin recording] This agreement is especially important because it concretely expresses the two governments' intention to cooperate in the fight against drug trafficking. The British Government intends to cooperate not only in the exchange of information, but also by donating very sophisticated modern equipment to search for drugs in the luggage of people traveling between the two countries. This is very important: beyond the importance of the equipment being donated, it demonstrates that the United Kingdom admits the principle of shared responsibility, that the problem of drug control is not only the responsibility of the producer countries but also of the consumer countries. [end recording]

The embassies of the two countries will arrange the implementation of the agreements.

Chile

Vice Foreign Minister Announces Resignation

PY0811232288 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Brigadier General Ernesto Videla has officially announced his resignation as vice foreign minister, a post he has occupied for approximately 1 year.

He also announced his resignation as president of the Chilean-Argentine Integration Commission, which has held several meetings with the purpose of strengthening relations between the two countries after the signing of the peace and friendship treaty.

Videla said that it still has not been decided who will replace him as vice minister after 5 December, when the decree appointing him to that post expires.

PDC Leader Comments on New Junta Member

PY0811220688 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Andres Zaldivar, Christian Democratic Party [PDC] vice president, has said that the designation of Santiago Sinclair as a new member of the Government Junta could become an obstacle to the opposition attempt to reform the 1980 Constitution. The PDC leader stressed that Sinclair enjoys Pinochet's absolute trust and is known to believe that the Constitution should not be changed.

[Begin Zaldivar recording] The first thing that comes to mind is that Pinochet has designated Sinclair in order to confirm his decision to reject the opposition proposals to reform the Constitution, as well to show that he does not recognize the real meaning of the 5 October plebiscite.

I believe, however, that things might change. I hope that General Sinclair will become more flexible in his new capacity and will help make General Pinochet more flexible, so that he will listen to the opposition and reform the Constitution. [end recording]

Zaldivar said the first impression he had after Sinclair's designation was that a dialogue with the government would not be possible. However, Zaldivar said, sometimes the most unyielding people are the ones that allow an opening.

Regarding the promotions and retirements in the Army High Command, Zaldivar said he was surprised at the size and depth of the changes, and he pointed out that most of the military men who came up through the ranks with Pinochet have already disappeared from the scene. Zaldivar said he believes this is important because the new Army commanders will be the ones to deal with the transition to democracy.

[Begin Zaldivar recording] The new set of generals and brigadiers will have to deal with the task of preparing the transition. This is important because these commanders have been less involved with the government during the period prior to the plebiscite. [end recording]

Andres Zaldivar concluded by saying that the new composition of the Army High Command could favor the transition to democracy in the country.

Former Senator Proposes Exchange With USSR

PY0811202788 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1522 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Santiago, 8 Nov (EFE)—Former Chilean Communist Senator Alejandro Toro today proposed the creation of a committee for exchanges in the fields of science, culture, arts, sports, and tourism "with the perestroyka and glasnost men."

In an article in today's issue of the daily LA EPOCA, Toro refers to the 71st anniversary of the Soviet revolution, asserting that "the truth on the Soviet situation has been distorted in Chile and that the time to solve this has come."

Toro admits "the tragedies, errors, and domestic problems in the Soviet Union," among which he mentions "the personality cult and the development of administrative and coercive measures that generated crimes and injustice."

Toro goes on to say that "in today's world, where everything has become internationalized and the nations are interdependent, perestroyka and glasnost also have a universal value because they have made valuable contributions to disarmament and the development of a climate of peace and friendship among the peoples."

Toro believes that "the time has come for Chileans to make a true contribution to the friendship and brotherhood of all countries of the world."

The former Communist congressman proposes the creation of "a committee for exchange in the fields of science and technology, culture and arts, sports and tourism" with the Soviet Union.

According to Toro, this committee would be "a contribution to social progress, international relaxation, and peace."

Inflation Rate, Unemployment Figures Announced

PY0811162088 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 3 Nov 88 p 17

[Summary] Luis Gatica, the National Institute of Statistics deputy director, has reported that in the first 10 months of 1988 the cumulative inflation rate reached 8.5 percent. He added that for the past 12 months the cumulative inflation rate totals 11 percent.

The National Institute of Statistics has also reported that in the July-September 1988 quarter the unemployment rate reached 8.7 percent.

Paraguay

'Violent Police Action' Disperses Seminarians

PY0811204688 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 8 Nov 88 p 13

[Text] A religious march that was developing normally, organized by students of the Catholic University Theology Institute and some priests and nuns, was unexpectedly dispersed by police who intercepted the group of some 60 people as they were walking toward the Metropolitan Cathedral. Many were injured and bruised in the violent police action.

Father Vicente Barreto, professor of the major seminary, who together with Father Jose Valpuesta was beaten with clubs and truncheons, stated: "The police planned a cowardly ambush; they beat us indiscriminately and without any explanation whatsoever." The march was planned as a conclusion to the Eucharistic Congress of the seminarians. The seminarians were walking in columns of two on the sidewalk, carrying a processional cross, a papal flag, and a Paraguayan flag. In the end the seminarians had to disband and the mass scheduled at the cathedral was celebrated later.

Father Barreto stated: "We were walking quietly on the sidewalk, not even causing traffic problems, because we were choosing streets with less traffic. The brutal manner in which we were attacked seems to show that not only the streets, but also the sidewalks, belong to the police."

He added: "We do not know whether they were annoyed by our prayers and by a public liturgical act, but this attack once again contradicts reports that relations between the state and the church are good."

The column of seminarians was intercepted at the corner of Ygatimi and Yegros Streets. Many of the seminarians were even wearing albs.

Peru

Request for President's Resignation Dismissed

PY0811134488 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Former President Fernando Belaunde Terry, Hernando de Soto, and Deputy Freddy Ghilardi have rejected the unexpected request by SODE [Solidarity and Democracy] that President Alan Garcia resign his post.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] I do not agree with that request. I think that the people elected a president for a specific term, in our case a 5-year term, which expires on 28 July 1990.

Only in the case of a very serious problem can there be a change and a constitutional succession. There is no such case now. There is a storm, a problem. A government has to confront many problems, and the problem must be tackled. It is the constitutional government that should deal with it. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Interior Minister Juan Soria Diaz has labeled as madness the SODE's request for President Garcia's resignation, adding that the president was elected by all Peruvians and not by a young minority party that seeks to distort the people's will. [passage omitted]

Senate President Romualdo Rodriguez has charged that a smear campaign has been unleashed against the government and against President Alan Garcia.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] You don't have to be a political expert to realize that a smear campaign has been unleashed against the government and the president, who is the leader of the government and of the ruling party. I heard the text of the SODE letter, which was read by a low-ranking—not a top-ranking—leader of the sector, demanding the resignation of the president. The request for the resignation of the president is based on old ideas. Even though it has been presented in a more or less elegant literary style, I believe that this request is inconsistent and that it is now too late to present it.

This request should have been submitted when SODE members were included on the APRA tickets. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Villanueva: 'Blood Will Flow' If Right Returns

PY0811120588 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0049 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Ayacucho, Peru, 7 Nov (EFE)—Prime Minister Armando Villanueva said here today that the right will never return to power in Peru. He added that, if needed, "rivers of blood will flow" to avoid it.

In a 26-minute speech to Ayacucho leaders—among them Defense Minister General Enrique Lopez-Albujar—Villanueva seemed to have dampened the aspirations of those parties to the right of the APRA which seek to achieve power in the 1990 elections.

Without mentioning any political parties, Villanueva said: "There would be a tremendous popular reaction" which would impede "the right, the reactionary sectors, and the colonialists" from returning to power.

The political forces to the right of the APRA have rallied behind writer Mario Vargas Llosa, the eventual presidential candidate for 1990. Among its main supporters is Fernando Belaunde Terry. Belaunde was Peruvian president on two occasions; on the first he was ousted by a military coup.

"Rivers of blood will flow if necessary, but (the Right) will not return" said Villanueva, visiting this city which witnessed the birth and consolidation of the insurgent Maoist organization Shining Path.

Apparently alluding to the three parties comprising the Democratic Front (FREDEMO), headed by Vargas Llosa, which are the only Peruvian rightist parties running in the 1990 elections, Villanueva said: "These people do not have the right to return to power because they are responsible for centralizing our country, for subjecting our country, and for impeding the development of our country."

He added: "We will not tolerate a return to the past. The future, whatever it may be, awaits us, but we will not allow that shameful past to return."

According to Villanueva, the "true past" belongs to those "who died as a result of an oligarchy which lost its wars because of selfish attitudes and betrayals."

Observers in Lima have said that the late former President General Juan Velasco Alvarado, who ousted Belaunde in 1968, made a similar statement during a military ceremony in 1969.

Velasco, who headed a nationalist and revolutionary government until he was ousted in 1975, said at the time that the right would not return to power in Peru and that if it tried to do so "rivers of blood will flow and there will not be enough lamp posts in Lima from which to hang them."

Bank, Textile Workers Injured by Police

PY0811134888 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0250 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Union leaders have reported that at least 15 workers were injured and 100 arrested as a result of clashes in different sectors of Lima between the police and striking bank employees and textile industry workers who today began an indefinite strike.

Augusto Garcia Duque, secretary general of the bank employees federation, has reported that the police repressed demonstrators who were holding a peaceful demonstration near bank agencies in downtown Lima. The police used buckshot, sticks, and tear gas.

The two labor unions have called this strike to protest against a government regulation which limits salary increases and which the labor unions describe as unconstitutional.

According to union leader Garcia, who protested against the arrest of numerous bank employee union leaders, six workers received medical treatment at local clinics after sustaining serious injuries.

There were also clashes near the Labor Ministry building, located in the Jesus Maria district, where textile industry workers were dispersed by police with water cannons and sticks. This report was made by the textile federation, which reported the arrest of at least 50 workers.

Striking Miners Clash With Police in Arequipa

PY0811212688 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Telephone relay from Arequipa]

[Excerpt] Uneasiness prevails in Arequipa today after yesterday's serious incidents between striking miners and the police.

Reporters were able to see that the strikers provoked the police by attacking them. During clashes yesterday four people were wounded and four civil guards received cuts and bruises. [passage omitted]

Guerrillas Kill Two in Junin Department Attack

PY0811180788 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1536 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Lima, 8 Nov (EFE)—Two girls were killed and a woman was seriously injured in a terrorist attack against a wedding party in San Agustin de Cajas.

According to press reports issued today, the incident occurred on 6 November. These press reports state that either Shining Path guerrillas or the MRTA, the two subversive organizations operating in Peru, are responsible for the attack.

Two sisters—a 13-year old and a 3-year-old girl—were killed in the attack, while a woman was seriously injured.

San Agustin de Cajas is a small town located 10 km from Huancayo, the capital of Junin Department, 415 km southeast of Lima.

Venezuela

AD Presidential Candidate Says Debt 'Unpayable'

PA0911010288 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 29 Oct 88 p D-2

[Report by Elides J. Rojas]

[Excerpts] Barquisimeto—Carlos Andres Perez, presidential candidate for Democratic Action [AD], says we should not and cannot pay the foreign debt under the present conditions because it is truly unpayable and its terms are unacceptable. I assume the commitment that under my administration it will not be paid under those conditions, and we will enter into any kind of negotiations to achieve better terms, he said. [passage omitted]

When questioned about the foreign debt problem, he said his administration would not pay the foreign debt under the present conditions—because he considers the conditions unacceptable—and that he will negotiate at every level to obtain from the bankers conditions that will not affect the country's development and economy.

At the present summit of the Group of Eight, formulas are emerging that could be very interesting in facing this problem jointly, from the viewpoint that it is a political problem, said Perez. I would not be surprised if a beneficial agreement came out of that summit. In any case, I can say that during my administration the debt will not be paid under the present conditions; in this state of affairs it is unpayable and cannot be done at the cost of the people's hunger and spreading misery. I will enter into the necessary negotiations at every level and, if necessary, we would seek a meeting with the heads of state of those countries. They are the first ones who must understand that although the countries with foreign debts have a commitment, under the present conditions these commitments are unpayable, said Carlos Andres Perez. [passage omitted]

Attempt To Destroy Radio Facilities Thwarted

PA0811170788 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 2 Nov 88 p 4, 34

[Report by Asdrubal Romero]

[Text] Merida, 1 Nov—Five unidentified individuals tried to blow up Merida's Radio Los Andes facilities but were prevented from doing so by watchman Nerio Pena.

The five individuals tried to blow up the transmission equipment on La Virgen hill, outside this city.

Shouting that they were going to blow up the facilities, they tried to enter, but Nerio Pena picked up his shotgun and the individuals fled. The station's director has reported the incident to the police.

Suriname

Shankar, Arron Welcome Netherlands Delegation

FL0811141388 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Text] Members of the Surinamese National Assembly have urged a visiting Dutch parliamentary delegation to meet with military chief Desi Bouterse. There is doubt that the delegation will respond to the appeal.

President Ramsewak Shankar and Prime Minister [Vice President] Henck Arron welcomed the delegation after an official reception at the Surinamese parliament. Relations between Suriname and Holland are warming after an aid cutoff.

Democratization Discussed

FL0811193888 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] Yesterday President Ramsewak Shankar and Vice President Arron received the visiting Dutch parliamentary delegation.

During discussions the parliamentarians were informed about the democratization and peace process, the situation in east Suriname, and the development cooperation. Also during the discussions, President Shankar denied reports in the Dutch press that Army Commander Bouterse was [words indistinct] in Brazil.

The head of the visiting delegation, [name indistinct], told the press it is clear that the government has control over the peace process, as well as the position of the Army.

This morning, the delegation held talks [words indistinct] while a meeting with social groups is scheduled for this afternoon.

The Dutch parliamentarians are of the opinion that the return of the peace process is a condition for the full recovery of the development cooperation between Suriname and Holland.

Their visit here is an orientation one, since the Dutch second chamber must give the government in The Hague the green light to [word indistinct] the policy concerning Suriname.

Trade Union Refuses To Meet

FL0811222188 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] The board of the trade union federation C-47 will consider the decision not to have talks with the Dutch parliamentary delegation. This was said by Chairman Fred Derby yesterday evening in an urgent labor assembly of the highest body of the federation.

[Words indistinct] a picture of the present socioeconomic and political situation, stated that he cannot talk about Surinamese problems with the Dutch parliamentarians. C-47 has decided not to accept the invitation of the Dutch Embassy, and has made the decision known by letter. The Dutch Embassy, however, repeated the invitation to Fred Derby. C-47 still wants to deliberate whether to talk to the delegation or not, although it's considered a superfluous decision by the [words indistinct].

Shankar, Soviet Envoy on Bilateral Relations

FL0811223088 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 8 Nov 88

[Text] The people of Suriname and the Soviet Union are linked through the common philosophy to stop the arms race, to refrain from inciting new wars, and to work towards ending existing wars.

This was stated by Soviet Ambassador Igor Bubnov yesterday at the reception marking the 71st anniversary of the October Revolution. Bubnov said that the Soviet people follow the developments in Suriname aimed at defending [word indistinct] and democracy [words indistinct].

President Ramsewak Shankar said that the attitude of their Soviet leader clearly indicates their open-mindedness for inevitable changes and development. The president said he appreciated the respect the Soviet Union has always shown for Suriname sovereignty and for the inviolable principles [words indistinct] of Suriname.

Both the Soviet ambassador and President Ramsewak Shankar were of the opinion that it's about time that the Soviet Union and Suriname start developing economic and trade relations.